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The situation in the Middle East

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Seventy-second year

Identical letters dated 25 January 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I transmit to you herewith a statistical summary of Israeli violations of Security Council resolution 1701 (2006) committed during the month of December 2016 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex issued as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 34, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nawaf **Salam**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 25 January 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Land violations committed in December 2016

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
7 December	0810	Members of an enemy patrol escorting a flag replacement detail at an enemy positions opposite Ayta al-Sha'b pointed a tank cannon at Lebanese territory. The flag was replaced at 1015 hours.
	1030 1200	Inside occupied Palestinian territory, opposite the Kafr Killa-Udaysah highway at point B82, three journalists from Israeli television approached with cameras, escorted by an Israeli enemy patrol comprising a Hummer vehicle. The journalists asked questions to civilians passing by on the Lebanese side. "We are Israeli television. We would like to speak with you. How is the situation in the South?"... and so on. No one responded to them.
10 December	0930	From inside the occupied Shab'a Farms at its Jabal al-Summaqah post, the Israeli enemy pointed a tank cannon at the Lebanese Army L360 position.
12 December	1520	Inside the occupied Shab'a Farms, at the Birkat al-Naqqar location, a tank carrier loaded with cement blocks and steel posts approached, escorted by an Israeli enemy patrol comprising a troop carrier and four Defender vehicles. Enemy personnel performed maintenance and installed the blocks inside the post. They left in the direction of occupied territory at 1630 hours.
15 December	2100 2140	The Israeli enemy fired eight flares over its Zabdin post inside the occupied Shab'a Farms and fired a mortar shell at the surrounding area.
22 December	1230	On the outskirts of the town of Marun al-Ra's, near the Lebanese-Palestinian border opposite points B52 and B52-2, while some Lebanese farmers were inspecting their fields, an Israeli enemy patrol comprising three Defender vehicles and two Hummer vehicles approached from inside occupied territory. Some 15 soldiers disembarked, took up combat positions, cocked and aimed their weapons at the farmers, and threw two smoke bombs that landed across from the farmers inside occupied Palestinian territory.
23 December	1106 1116	Opposite the town of Yarun near point BP17, members of an Israeli enemy patrol pointed a Merkava tank cannon at an Observer Group Lebanon patrol stationed inside Lebanese territory.
31 December	1200	Inside the occupied Shab'a farms at the Bastrah location, an Israeli enemy patrol comprising two Hummer vehicles approached. Several soldiers disembarked without violating the Blue Line (which demarcates area with regard to which Lebanon maintains a claim) and attempted unsuccessfully to abduct some herders. The enemy soldiers directed curses and abuse in Arabic at said herders, and threatened them. The patrol left in the direction of occupied territory at 1330 hours.

Sea violations committed in December 2016

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
4 December	0435	From inside occupied Palestinian territorial waters opposite Ra's al-Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military launch directed a searchlight towards Lebanese territorial waters for a period of 20 seconds.
	0439	Off Ra's al-Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military launch violated the southern maritime boundary established by Decree No. 6433 (2011) of 1 October 2011 for a three-minute period, and proceeded on its way for some 170 metres. The launch then left in the direction of occupied Palestinian territorial waters.
5 December	1930 1940	From inside occupied Palestinian territorial waters off Ra's al-Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military launch directed a searchlight towards Lebanese territorial waters for two periods of 40 seconds and 30 seconds, respectively.
	1533	Off Ra's al-Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military launch violated the southern maritime boundary established by Decree No. 6433 (2011) for a two-minute period, and proceeded on its way for some 240 metres. The launch then left in the direction of occupied Palestinian territorial waters.
	1945 2005	Off Ra's al-Naqurah, the crew of an Israeli enemy military launch opened fire from inside occupied Palestinian territorial waters at Lebanese fishing boats inside Lebanese territorial waters, and fired six flares over Lebanese territorial waters.
6 December	1029	Off Ra's al-Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military launch violated the southern maritime boundary established by Decree No. 6433 (2011) for a two-minute period, and proceeded on its way for some 204 metres. The launch then left in the direction of occupied Palestinian territorial waters.
7 December	1039	Off Ra's al-Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military launch violated the southern maritime boundary established by Decree No. 6433 (2011) for a three-minute period, and proceeded on its way for some 280 metres. The launch then left in the direction of occupied Palestinian territorial waters.
8 December	0646	Off Ra's al-Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military launch violated the southern maritime boundary established by Decree 6433 (2011) for a two-minute period, and proceeded on its way for some 280 metres inside Lebanese territorial waters. The launch then left in the direction of occupied Palestinian territorial waters. At 0650 hours, it again violated the boundary, for a two-minute period, and proceeded on its way for some 300 metres. The launch then left in the direction of occupied Palestinian territorial waters.
10 December	0604	Off Ra's al-Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military launch violated the southern maritime boundary established by Decree No. 6433 (2011) for a two-minute period, and proceeded on its way for some 260 metres. The launch then left in the direction of occupied Palestinian territorial waters.

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
11 December	0352	Off Ra's al-Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military launch violated the southern maritime boundary established by Decree 6433 (2011) for a five-minute period, and proceeded on its way for some 407 metres inside Lebanese territorial waters. Its crew also directed a searchlight towards said waters for a five-minute period. The launch then left in the direction of occupied Palestinian territorial waters. At 0551 hours, it again violated the boundary, for a four-minute period, and proceeded on its way for some 460 metres into Lebanese territorial waters. Its crew also directed a searchlight in the direction of said waters. The launch then left in the direction of occupied Palestinian territorial waters. At 0605 hours, it violated the boundary again, for a five-minute period, and proceeded on its way for some 465 metres. The launch then left in the direction of occupied Palestinian territorial waters.
	0600	From inside occupied Palestinian waters, the crew of an Israeli enemy launch broadcast in Hebrew over loudspeakers, sounded warning sirens and released two explosive objects.
	1806	From inside occupied Palestinian territory at its Ra's al-Naqurah position, the Israeli enemy directed a searchlight towards Lebanese territorial waters.
12 December	0221	Off Ra's al-Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military launch violated the southern maritime boundary established by Decree 6433 (2011) for a three-minute period, and proceeded on its way for some 315 metres into Lebanese territorial waters. The launch then left in the direction of occupied Palestinian territorial waters.
	0302	Off Ra's al-Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military launch violated the southern maritime boundary established by Decree 6433 (2011) for a seven-minute period, and proceeded on its way for some 540 metres into Lebanese territorial waters. The launch then left in the direction of occupied Palestinian territorial waters.
	0340	From inside occupied Palestinian territory at its Ra's al-Naqurah position, the Israeli enemy directed a searchlight at Lebanese territorial waters for a 10-second period.
	1030	Opposite Ra's al-Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military launch violated the southern maritime boundary established by Decree 6433 (2011) for a period of one hour and twenty-five minutes, proceeding on its way for some 260 metres into Lebanese territorial waters. The launch then left in the direction of occupied Palestinian territorial waters.
16 December	1235	In the open sea off Ra's al-Naqurah, owing to sea swells, buoy No. 7, which had been put in place by the Israeli enemy in the so-called line of buoys on a previous date, moved out of position. It moved north towards Lebanese territorial waters.
	1240	Off Ra's al-Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military launch violated the southern maritime boundary established by Decree No. 6433 (2011) for a four-minute period, and proceeded on its way for some 260 metres. The launch then left in the direction of occupied Palestinian territorial waters.

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
	1536	Off Ra's al-Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military launch violated the southern maritime boundary established by Decree No. 6433 (2011) for a one-minute period, and proceeded on its way for some 200 metres. The launch then left in the direction of occupied Palestinian territorial waters.
21 December	0300	From inside occupied Palestinian territorial waters off Ra's al-Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military launch directed a searchlight towards Lebanese territorial waters for a three-minute period.
	0300 0335	From inside occupied Palestinian territory at its position opposite Ra's al-Naqurah, the Israeli enemy directed a searchlight at Lebanese territorial waters for a five-minute period.
	1552	Off Ra's al-Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military launch violated the southern maritime boundary established by Decree No. 6433 (2011) for a three-minute period, and proceeded on its way for some 142 metres. The launch then left in the direction of occupied Palestinian territorial waters.
22 December	1618	Off Ra's al-Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military launch violated the southern maritime boundary established by Decree No. 6433 (2011) for a four-minute period, and proceeded on its way for some 150 metres. The launch then left in the direction of occupied Palestinian territorial waters.
24 December	1615	Off Ra's al-Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military launch violated the southern maritime boundary established by Decree No. 6433 (2011) for a three-minute period, and proceeded on its way for some 315 metres. The launch then left in the direction of occupied Palestinian territorial waters.
27 December	1737 1739	From inside occupied Palestinian territorial waters off Ra's al-Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military launch directed a searchlight towards Lebanese territorial waters.

Air violations committed in December 2016

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
3 December	1930	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Naqurah. It circled over the Western Bekaa and the South before leaving at 2300 hours over Naqurah.
5 December	0600	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha'b. It circled over the South before leaving at 2050 hours over Alma al-Sha'b.
6 December	1440	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha'b. It circled over the South before leaving at 2310 hours over Rumaysh.

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
7 December	0635	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha'b. It circled over the South and Beirut and its suburbs before leaving at 2315 hours over Naqurah.
	1920	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha'b. It circled over the South before leaving at 2340 hours over Alma al-Sha'b.
8 December	0730	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. It circled over Riyaq, Baalbek, Hirmil and the South before leaving at 1015 hours over Alma al-Sha'b.
	1345	Two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea west of Batrun. They circled over all regions of Lebanon before leaving at 1505 hours over Alma al-Sha'b.
9 December	0030	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha'b. It circled over the South before leaving at 0510 hours over Alma al-Sha'b.
	1005	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Rumaysh. It circled over the Western Bekaa before leaving at 1300 hours over Rumaysh.
12 December	0915	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. It circled over Riyaq, Baalbek and Hirmil before leaving at 1320 hours over Kafr Killa.
	1845	An Israeli enemy warplane violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Ra's al-Naqurah. It circled over Lebanese territorial waters and released 27 decoy flares before leaving at 1920 hours.
14 December	0850	Two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Shikka. They left at 0900 hours over Rumaysh.
	1005	Two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Beirut. They left at 1020 hours over Alma al-Sha'b.
	1230	Two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. They circled over all regions of Lebanon before leaving at 1255 hours over the sea west of Shikka.
	1416	Two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea west of Batrun. They circled over all regions of Lebanon before leaving at 1500 hours over the sea west of Naqurah.
15 December	1100	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Naqurah. They circled over Beirut and its suburbs before leaving at 1515 hours over the sea off Naqurah.

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
	1145	Two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea west of Beirut. They circled over all regions of Lebanon before leaving at 1300 hours over Kafr Killa.
20 December	0730	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Aytarun. It circled over the South before leaving at 1010 hours over Kafr Killa.
	1415	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. It left at 2310 hours over Naqurah.
22 December	1230	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Aytarun. It circled over the Western Bekaa and the South before leaving at 1400 hours over Kafr Killa.
	1820	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Rumaysh. It left at 2320 hours over Aytarun.
28 December	2215 2230	Two glowing objects were observed at low altitude over the towns of Kafr Killa and Dayr Mimas.
29 December	0730	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Naqurah. It circled over Beirut and its suburbs and the South before leaving at 1010 hours over Naqurah.